

QUARTERLY PROGRAM TOPIC REPORT
WETA TV26 PROGRAMMING

2nd Quarter 2017
April, May June

As the program schedule for WETA TV26 is planned, consideration is given to a variety of special interests in the Washington metropolitan area. During April, May and June, the following issues were covered in a variety of programming.

American History / Biography
Arts
Business / Industry
Crime / Legal Issues / Law Enforcement
Economy
Environment / Nature / Natural Disasters
Health / Health Care
National Politics
Science / Technology
War / Veterans / National Security

The programming listed below represents ongoing series that continually touch upon the previously mentioned topics.

BBC World News America (Weeknights)
Charlie Rose (Weeknights)
Defense News Weekly (Weekly)
Frontline (Weekly)
Nightly Business Report (Weeknights)
PBS NewsHour (Weeknights)
PBS NewHour Weekend (Weekends)
SciTech Now (Weekly)
To the Contrary (Weekly)
Washington Week (Weekly)
White House Chronicle (Weekly)

Top Categories
Quarterly Program Topic Report
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American History / Biography

COMMAND AND CONTROL: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (120) minutes

Aired Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 8:00pm

Discover the terrifying truth behind one of America's most dangerous nuclear accidents-the deadly 1980 incident at an Arkansas Titan II missile complex-in this chilling, minute-by-minute account of the long-hidden story.

AMERICAN EPIC: OUT OF THE MANY, THE ONE (90) minutes

Aired Tuesday, May 30, 2017 at 9:00 pm

Discover how America's diverse cultures contribute to its musical styles: from the Hopi tribe to Hawaii's Joseph Kekuku to Mexican-American Lydia Mendoza and the Cajun Breaux Family. Mississippi John Hurt's blues inspires a generation of musicians.

A CONVERSATION WITH BILL MOYERS (90) minutes

Aired Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Join the award-winning journalist, political commentator and author as he reflects on his life and storied career, from his days as White House Press Secretary for President Johnson to network news reporter to host of numerous programs for PBS.

Arts

GREAT PERFORMANCES AT THE MET: ROMEO ET JULIETTE (180) minutes

Aired Friday, April 14, 2017 at 9:00 pm

The electrifying team of Vittorio Grigolo and Diana Damrau reunites for a new production of Gounod's opera based on the Shakespeare play. Damrau makes her role debut as Juliette in Bartlett Sher's new production, conducted by Gianandrea Noseda. Elliot Madore sings Mercutio and Mikhail Petrenko sings Frre Laurent. Sher's staging is a La Scala production, initially presented by the Salzburg Festival, where it premiered in 2008.

LATIN MUSIC USA: THE CHICANO WAVE/DIVAS AND SUPERSTARS (120) minutes

Aired Friday, May 5, 2017 at 9:00 pm

Mexican-Americans in CA, TX and across the Southwest create their own distinct musical voices during the second half of the 20th century. Their music would play an important role in the struggle for Chicano civil rights and ultimately propel them from the barrio to the national stage.

HAMILTON'S AMERICA (120) minutes

Aired Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 9:00 pm

GREAT PERFORMANCES follows the creation of Lin-Manuel Miranda's pop culture Broadway phenomenon, Hamilton, and the history behind it. Interviews with Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush, Nas, Questlove, Stephen Sondheim and more.

Business / Industry

GRAND COULEE DAM: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (60) minutes

Aired Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 8:00 pm

Grand Coulee was more than a dam; it was a proclamation. In the wake of the Great Depression, America turned from private enterprise to public works - not simply to provide jobs, but to restore faith. The ultimate expression of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, Grand Coulee played a central role in transforming the Northwest; it was the largest hydroelectric power producing facility in the world when it was completed in March 1941. After WWII, a vast irrigation project made possible by the dam-helped turn the barren deserts of central Washington into rich farmland. However, the dam prevented access to one of the greatest salmon rivers in the world. Deprived of the salmon - their most important resource - the native people who lived along the Columbia witnessed a profound cultural decline. Featuring the men and women who lived and worked at Grand Coulee and the native people whose lives were changed, as well as historians and engineers, this film explores how the tension between technological achievement and environmental impact hangs over the project's legacy.

PBS NEWSHOUR WEEKEND: DJIBOUTI ROLLS OUT A WELCOME MAT (30) minutes

Aired Saturday, May 13, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Djibouti is a tiny country of less than a million people in the Horn of Africa, wedged between Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia. Its position, at the gateway to the Suez Canal, is one of the world's busiest shipping routes, keeping the country's economy afloat. Its coastal location has also made Djibouti a prized spot for military bases from countries all over the world, including its former colonial ruler, France, along with the United States, Italy, Japan, and now China. NewsHour Weekend Special Correspondent Martin Seemungal reports on how Djibouti came to roll out a welcome mat to the world.

FRONTLINE: SUPPLEMENTS AND SAFETY (60) minutes

Aired Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 10:00 pm

Follow an investigation of the hidden dangers of vitamins and supplements, a multibillion-dollar industry with only limited FDA oversight. Explore the risks of taking mega-doses of vitamins and examine how they are marketed and regulated.

Crime / Legal Issues / Law Enforcement

FRONTLINE: LAST DAYS OF SOLITARY (120) minutes

Aired Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 9:00pm

Follow what happens to recently released prisoners when they go from solitary to the streets. With extraordinary access to the Maine State Prison, the film examines the long-term effects of solitary confinement and efforts to reduce its use.

RIKERS: AN AMERICAN JAIL (60) minutes

Aired Monday, May 8, 2017 at 10:00 pm

The United States is facing a crisis of mass incarceration with over 2.2 million people packed into its jails and prisons. To understand the human toll of this crisis, Rikers Island is a good place to start. Of the more than 7,500 people detained at Rikers Island on any given day, almost 80% have not yet been found guilty or innocent of the charges they face. All are at risk in the pervasive culture of violence that forces people to come to terms with what they must do for their own survival. **RIKERS: AN AMERICAN JAIL**, a documentary from Bill Moyers, brings you face to face with men and women who have endured incarceration at Rikers Island. Their stories, told direct to camera, vividly describe the cruel arc of the Rikers experience -- from the shock of entry, to the extortion and control exercised by other inmates, the oppressive interaction with corrections officers, the beatings and stabbings, the torture of solitary confinement and the many challenges of returning to the outside world.

WASHINGTON WEEK (30) minutes

Aired Friday, June 9, 2017 at 8:00 pm

War of Words: Trump and Comey accuse each other of lying: Fired FBI Director James Comey accused President Trump of telling "lies, plain and simple" during testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee. Trump responded by calling Comey a "leaker" and denied any collusion between his campaign and Russia. The president said he would "100 percent" talk to special counsel Robert Mueller under oath. How did the relationship devolve to this point?

Economy

CHARLIE ROSE: THE WEEK (30) minutes

Aired Friday, April 21, 2017 at 11:00 pm

Former ambassador Christopher Hill on rising tensions between the U.S. and North Korea. Robert Costa of The Washington Post and Washington Week on President Trump's first 100 days and the new effort to repeal and replace Obamacare. Steve Ballmer on usafacts.org, his new site providing visualizations of government data. Senator Elizabeth Warren on her new book, *This Fight Is Our Fight: The Battle to Save America's Middle Class*. Actor Carrie Coon on her roles in the TV series The Leftovers and Fargo, and actor Christian Bale on his role in The Promise, which tells the story of the Armenian Genocide.

FRONTLINE: POVERTY, POLITICS, AND PROFIT (60) minutes

Aired Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 10:00 pm

Investigate the billions spent on housing the poor and why so few get the help they need. With NPR, the film examines the politics, profits and problems of an affordable housing system in crisis.

PBS NEWSHOURWEEKEND (30) minutes

Aired Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 6:00 pm

On this edition for Saturday, June 3, Vladimir Putin plays down allegations of Russian hacking into the American presidential election, and a look at Marvel's first queer Latina superhero. Also, ordinary citizens in Cambodia are losing land as economic development spreads. Hari Sreenivasan anchors from New York. Why did the White House consider lifting Russian sanctions? As a special counsel ramps up a probe into Russia's connections with the Trump campaign during the last presidential election, questions remain over why the Trump administration considered lifting economic sanctions on Russia. Michael Isikoff, the chief investigative correspondent for Yahoo News who reported on the issue this week, joins Hari Sreenivasan from Washington, D.C. Meet the writer of Marvel's first queer Latina superhero: America Chavez, Marvel Comics' first queer Latina superhero, is now featured in the groundbreaking solo series "America." The comic was written by Gabby Rivera, who has a lot in common with her title character. NewsHour Weekend's Ivette Feliciano sat down with Rivera to talk about how her personal life contributed to the conception of Marvel's latest superhero. As Cambodia's economy grows, low-income residents left behind: Cambodia's economy is one of the fastest-growing in the world, with a booming manufacturing industry and steady agricultural exports. But a burgeoning real estate market is causing displacement among farmers and low-income Cambodians, as the government grants large swaths of territory to companies for commercial projects. NewsHour Weekend Special Correspondent Kira Kay has more.

Environment / Nature / Natural Disasters

NATURE: HOTEL ARMADILLO (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 8:00pm

You won't find this hotel on the beaches of Rio. Deep in the heart of the Brazilian wetlands, the mysterious and secretive Giant armadillo digs a new burrow every other night. Once this termite-eater moves on, it leaves behind one of the hottest plots of real estate in the tropical Pantanal for 80 species of diverse and ever-changing animal clientele. We'll get a never-before-seen look as guests walk, squawk, slither, and crawl from far and wide to get the best room available. From families of nursing anteaters to foraging coatis, the "Hotel Armadillo" showcases all the grasslands have to offer along with the scientists who "check in" these exotic guests.

NATURE: THE GATHERING SWARMS (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 8:00 pm

This program looks at some of the most extraordinary swarms on the planet, including a view from inside a locust swarm, mayflies along the Mississippi, 17-year cicadas, and brine fly hatches over Lake Victoria. Superswarms of finch-like quelea in Africa merit attempts at control through assaults on their roosts, while aggressive swarms of silver carp in North American seem able to overcome any kind of restraint. Dangerous swarms of killer bees, however, can be controlled to the point that they can be worn as a human bee suit. However, beyond the power of sheer numbers, increasingly complex and organized swarms eventually give rise to swarm intelligence that allows complex decisions to be made.

BIG PACIFIC: MYSTERIOUS (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 8:00 pm

Explore the mysterious Pacific-whose depths we are just beginning to explore. There are many unanswered questions we yearn to unravel, but the ocean doesn't give up its secrets willingly.

Health / Health Care

FRONTLINE: THE FISH ON MY PLATE (90) minutes

Aired Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 10:00 pm

Journalist and author Paul Greenberg (Four Fish; American Catch) spends a year eating only fish. From farmed fish in Norway to the biggest wild fishery in the world off Peru, he travels to investigate the health of the ocean - as well as his own.

NOVA: POISONED WATER (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at 9:00 pm

The water contamination crisis in Flint, MI, has revealed a disturbing truth about the vulnerabilities of our aging drinking water infrastructure. Discover the chemistry, biology and engineering that led to this disaster.

FRONTLINE: SUPPLEMENTS AND SAFETY (60) minutes

Aired Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 10:00 pm

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National Politics / Government

CHARLIE ROSE (60) minutes

Aired Monday, April 17, 2017 at 11:00 pm

A political update with guest host Jeff Glor, Phil Rucker of The Washington Post, David Frum of The Atlantic, and Julie Hirschfeld Davis of The New York Times. Discussion includes U.S. tensions with North Korea and our relationships with Asia and Europe; disorganization, hiring bottlenecks, and conflicts of interest within the Trump administration; and continuing protests over the president's refusal to share his tax returns.

FRONTLINE: BANNON'S WAR (60) minutes

Aired Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 10:00 pm

President Trump's advisor Stephen Bannon's war - with radical Islam, Washington, and White House rivals. The story of Bannon's fight to deliver on Trump's promises, with a confrontational style based on his personal crusade to dramatically transform America.

WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW (30) minutes

Aired Friday, June 2, 2017 at 8:00 pm

U.S. will withdraw from Paris climate change agreement: President Trump announced that the U.S. will withdraw from the Paris climate accord, the historic 2015 agreement that commits nations to cut greenhouse gas emissions, and seek to renegotiate a new deal that's "fair" for the American people. Global leaders called the move a mistake, and Trump's decision is raising questions about the U.S. role on the world stage. Plus, Vladimir Putin signals "patriotic" Russians may have hacked the U.S. election. Panelists: Michael Scherer, Washington bureau chief, TIME Magazine; Kelly O'Donnell White House and Capitol Hill correspondent, NBC News; Indira Lakshmanan, Washington columnist, The Boston Globe; Newmark Chair in Journalism Ethics, Poynter Institute; Jonathan Swan, National Political Reporter, Axios.

Science / Technology

SECRETS OF THE DEAD: LEONARDO, THE MAN WHO SAVED SCIENCE (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 10:00 pm

Leonardo da Vinci is well known for his inventions as well as his art. But new evidence shows that many of his ideas were realized long before he sketched them out in his notebooks - some even 1,700 years before. Was Leonardo a copycat?

NOVA: METEOR STRIKE (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday May 24, 2017 at 9:00 pm

A blinding streak of light screaming across the Russian sky, followed by a shuddering blast strong enough to damage buildings and send more than 1000 people to the hospital. On the morning of February 15th, a 7000 ton asteroid crashed into the Earth's atmosphere, exploded and fell to earth across a wide swath near the Ural mountains. According to NASA, the Siberian Meteor, which exploded with the power of 30 Hiroshima bombs, was the largest object to burst in the atmosphere since a 1908 event near Siberia's Tunguska river. That time there were few eyewitnesses and no record of the event except for thousands of acres of flattened trees. This time however the event was captured by countless digital dashboard cameras, which have lately become a common fixture in Russian autos and trucks. Within days, armed with this unprecedented crowd-sourced material, NOVA crews hit the ground in Russia along with impact scientists as they hunt for debris from the explosion and clues to the meteor's origin and makeup. To understand how lucky we were this time, we explore even greater explosions in the past, from Tunguska to the asteroid that extinguished the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. "Russian Meteor Strike" puts it all together and asks: Is our solar system a deadly celestial shooting gallery - with Earth in the cross-hairs? What are the chances that another, even more massive asteroid is heading straight for us? Are we just years, months or days away from a total global reboot of civilization, or worse?

GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW (60) minutes

Aired Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at 9:00 pm

Journey with Kirk Johnson to Yellowstone, where wolves, grizzlies, beavers and Great Gray owls survive one of the greatest seasonal changes on the planet. As the temperature swings 140 degrees, cameras capture how the animals cope.

War / Veterans / National Security

THE GREAT WAR: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (360) minutes

Aired Monday, April 10, 2017 through Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 9:00pm

Learn how WWI transformed America through stories of African-American and Latino soldiers, feminist activists, Native-American "code talkers" and others whose participation in the war to "make the world safe for democracy" has been largely forgotten.

INDEPENDENT LENS: FARMER/VETERAN (60) minutes

Aired Monday, May 29, 2017 at 10:00 pm

A combat veteran starts a farm to help cultivate a healthier life outside the Army. While the sense of duty he once felt as a soldier returns, his crippling PTSD remains as he and his wife nervously anticipate the birth of their first child.

FRONTLINE: ISIS' SECRET HISTORY (60) minutes

Aired Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 10:00 pm

Get the inside story of the creation of ISIS and learn how the U.S. missed the many warning signs. The film uncovers the terror group's earliest plans, the Islamic radicals who became its leaders and the American failures to stop ISIS' brutal rise.